

The Applicant respectfully requests that the following amendments be entered prior to further examination of the above-referenced application.

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4 with the following paragraph:

me 12
According to a first aspect of the invention, the control and security device allowing ejection of the strip of material from a strip dispensing machine comprising a drum and a safety shaft which shuts off the lower opening through which the strip of material passes as it leaves the housing and the drum, said drum and said shaft being linked by a means of transmission consisting of a belt, is characterized in that said means of transmission is float mounted between the drum and the shaft, with the central part of the shaft that accommodates said belt and faces the groove on the drum being designed with a dolly axle configuration having a dimension that exceeds the width of the groove on the drum so as to allow limited amplitude, thus tracking the direction in which the strip of paper is pulled longitudinally out of the dispensing machine by the user.

Please replace the paragraph between lines 21-26 on page 7 with the following paragraph:

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In addition and incidentally, the groove (4b) on the drum may have, in the location of the slit (4a) formed in the drum, a slight extra thickness to ensure control of the position of the transmission belt during extreme deflection of the float-mounted belt along the dolly axle shape (9a) of the safety shaft (9).

Please replace the paragraph between lines 28-35 on page 7 with the following paragraph:

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The invention is applicable to all types of machines for dispensing strips of material which include connection by a belt-type transmission between the drum that accommodates a cutting device and a safety shaft located in the lower part of the housing which ensures guided ejection of the strip of material.

Please replace the as-filed Abstract on page 11 of the application with the following Abstract:

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A control and safety device for a machine for dispensing strips of material having a transmission(means)(10) which consists of a belt mounted between a drum (4) and a shaft (9) in a floating mount. The shaft receiving the belt having an axle of narrower diameter than the shaft in its central part opposite a groove formed on the drum. The axle has a dimension greater than the width of the groove (4b) formed on the drum, so as to enable an oblique lateral displacement of the belt, which thus accompanies, according to a limited amplitude α , the longitudinal direction in which, for example, a paper strip is being pulled out of the machine by the user. ←